

**LOUDOUN COUNTY ADVISORY COMMISSION ON YOUTH**  
**MINUTES**  
**MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2005**

**Members and Staff in attendance:** Carol Kost, Rhonda Walker, Robin R. LaRosa, Nancy J. Lasik, Wes Corber, Kurt Erickson, Delbert White, Jr., Lance Kelley, Judith Ramberg, Charlene Johnson, Tim Chesnutt, Robert McGhee, Shannon Walker, Brittany Rose, John Kundzins, Allison Samuel, Lindsay Samuel, Sean Hampton, Trent Lugar, Brandon Ballentine, Traci Cox, Mike Morgan, Mal Owen, Jackie Mayne

Excused absences were: Felicia Brower, Eric Scofield, and Becky Bowman

**Call to Order**

The meeting held at the Government Center 4<sup>th</sup> floor was called to order by Chair, Carol Kost at 7:05 pm on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

**Introductions**

Carol Kost introduced and welcomed our new Sugarland Run District Representative, Delbert White, Jr., who was appointed by Board of Supervisor Mick Staton. Delbert is also a very active member of the Loudoun Youth Initiative and a prominent and successful advocate for youth of Loudoun County. We welcome Mr. White as he begins his service on ACOY.

**Approval of Minutes**

The motion was made by Rhonda Walker, seconded by Traci Cox, and unanimously approved that the minutes of the November 22nd, 2004 meeting be accepted.

**Public Comments**

None

**Chair's Report:** *Carol Kost*

Carol announced that Jessica Walker and Christine Robinson were recognized in the Loudoun Times-Mirror as Future Leaders of Loudoun County.

Traci Cox, ACOY rep from Stone Bridge High School, is a volunteer newspaper columnist for Loudoun Voices a section of the Loudoun Times-Mirror. Traci writes about youth issues and concerns in her column. Traci's last article was in reference to teen drinking. Her findings were that a lot of parents condone their children drinking as long as they do it in their own home and they are not out driving. Kurt Erickson stated that a house bill is being voted on to make it illegal to give children alcohol. It is not illegal to provide under age persons with alcohol. The house has until March 29<sup>th</sup> to amend.

Carol Kost gave each member a memo detailing the tasks that are currently underway or needing attention and leadership. Among the tasks were:

◆ Loudoun Youth Initiative

◆ Committee members are: Carol Kost, Nancy Lasik, Delbert White, Tim Chesnutt, and Anne Mikszewski. The Loudoun Youth Initiative is continuing to grow with a lot of energy and force. Friday, March 11th, at 9:00am, the LYI steering committee, along with author Patricia Hersch and Associates will be working on a final strategic plan and timeline. Two supervisors will be in attendance and it is open to the public. The Loudoun Youth Initiative also has 2 full time staff openings. The positions were supported unanimously with a BOS vote of 9-0 to support the Loudoun Youth Initiative. The Director position would report directly to the County Administration office.

Carol Kost stated that Supervisor Snow suggested that he would like to see a televised parliamentary forum on youth once a month run by the youth committee held at the government center in the boardroom.

◆ Bylaws/ Rework ACOY Structure

◆ Nancy Lasik, Robin LaRosa and Carol Kost are taking on this task. Changes were made to the existing bylaws and read to members present. After discussion on the proposed changes, the process was agreed upon that Jackie would email the old bylaws along with the updated version to the members of ACOY, and that they would then have until Friday March 11<sup>th</sup> to respond and make changes by email to Nancy Lasik. After the changes are updated by Nancy she would then forward them to the members of ACOY for another review. The updated draft copy would then be discussed at next months meeting. County Administration and the BOS will later review the bylaws.

◆ ACOY Training/Retreat

◆ The Advisory Commission will be conducting training for new members. Volunteers are needed for this task.

◆ Senior Farwell and Thank You

◆ Charlene Johnson handles this task every year. Charlene is asking for volunteers to help her with this task. If you are interested in helping please call Charlene at 703-777-0392.

◆ Teen-Centered Network Work Group

◆ Committee members Carol Kost and Tim Chesnutt lead this group. They had their 1<sup>st</sup> meeting on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. This group was formed to address the first strategy from the Loudoun Youth Initiative to work on getting teen centers for Loudoun County. This work group is always in need of support to move forward.

◆ Transportation Work Group

◆ Committee Members are Delbert White and Carol Kost. Delbert White has been working with VRTA chairman and CEO of Virginia Regional Transit Association, Mark McGregor, to pilot a program to move teens around the county. VRTA will be financing the program. Delbert desperately needs the input of the teens on this project. He would like for all students involved in ACOY to talk to teens in their school and get some routes and times that they would like to use the VRTA program. Delbert needs to know where, when and how often the students need the transportation. Some students made suggestions on how to get the information from the students. One student suggested a survey box and another suggested a lunchtime meeting while one student suggested making an announcement in the morning to the whole school.

◆ Youth Project

◆ Shannon Walker is taking on this task. The YADAPP committee is having their next meeting on Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Youth Fest in Purcellville on May 21<sup>st</sup> to be a part of the Purcellville Heritage Day. Shannon is in need of volunteers to help her with this upcoming event.

◆ United Way Grants

◆ Christine Robinson is on the task. Christine is in need of youth to sit in on review committees. Grants are reviewed and approved. There will be 15 hours of training to evaluate overview on projects in the county.

◆ 501(C) \_\_\_\_

◆ Carol Kost is heading this task to establish a 501(C)\_\_\_\_ corporation. The Friends of ACOY would be able to collect donations and provide fundraisers for the ACOY.

◆ Executive Committee

◆ Carol Kost, Kurt Erickson, Jessica Walker, Hannah Sweeney, Tim Chesnutt, and Anne Mikszewski are members on this committee.

**School Reports:**

*Foxcroft*

- Shannon Walker reported that they are on their interim and have no classes for this time. She stated that Jessica Walker (youth chair) along with 20 other students from Foxcroft are in the Amazon.

*Heritage*

- Brittany Rose reported that the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation will take place on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and the Heritage International Fair will take place on March 10<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm. The school will be hosting a pep rally and an Informal Dance on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Dance is from 8-11pm.

*Loudoun County*

- John Kundzins reported that the National Arts Society conducted a ceremony and the school celebrated Black History Month by having raffles and prizes for answering questions. Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup> they are having a keynote speaker come to the school. 3 people in the school are now in Ethiopia.
- Sean Hampton stated that March spring sports have arrived and the countdown is on to graduation—only 109 days.

*Potomac Falls*

- Brandon Ballentine reported they are sponsoring “Night of the Falls”. This event will take place on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-11pm at the school. There will be a 3-on-3 basketball tournament and a Texas “Hold’em” Tournament. Outback Steakhouse will be sponsoring the tournament and all proceeds will support the Tsunami Relief efforts.

**Manager’s Report/Updates**

Charlene Johnson reported that the YADAPP video is complete and she will like to get it on the TV at the schools.

- ▶ She also reported that on April 13<sup>th</sup> they would be conducting a KICK BUTT DAY. Stonebridge High will be doing a graffiti wall to support this event.
- ▶ Blue Ribbon Campaign will kick-off in April. This event is for the prevention of child abuse. There will be a Blue Ribbon Dinner held on April 27<sup>th</sup> at Harper Park. Entertainment will be provided.
- ▶ Music Fest is scheduled to start the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in June. This event is held at the Belmont Country Club and Eddie Money is scheduled to kick-off the concerts.

**Other Comments**

Delbert White reported that he has started a Sugarland Run District ACOY site. It is an e-mail discussion forum that will be published on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month.

Delbert also stated that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Step Competition would be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at Dominion High School starting at 6:30pm.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:53p.m.

The next meeting will be held on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jackie Mayne*

Jackie Mayne  
Acting Secretary